

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Los Angeles

From: (Public Agency): Valley County Water District
14521 Ramona Blvd.
Baldwin Park, CA 91706

(Address)

Project Title: Morada Well Rehabilitation Project

Project Applicant: Valley County Water District

Project Location - Specific:
5256 Morada St, Irwindale, CA 91706

Project Location - City: Irwindale Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Reactivating groundwater well that had previously been shut down near Superfund site. Reactivating the well would benefit our customers by providing water system reliability and water quality.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Valley County Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Valley County Water District

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 2. Replacement or Reconstruction CCR 15302
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Project will take place at an existing water facility.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Tara Robinson Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (818) 429-6981

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: *Tara Robinson* Date: 3/30/22 Title: Water Resources Manager

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED

ON April 21 2022

UNTIL May 23 2022

Revised 2011

REGISTRAR – RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

**Exemption Worksheet for Public Agency Projects
 Water Supply Permits
 State Water Resource Control Board
 Division of Drinking Water (DDW)**

Water System Number: 1910009 Lead Agency (LA): Valley County Water District
 Water System Name: Valley County Water District Date LA NOE Filed: _____
 County: Los Angeles State Clearinghouse #: 2021010150

DDW Reviewing Engineer: _____
 Date: _____

Project Title: Morada Well Rehabilitation Project

Reactivating a groundwater well at an existing water facility.

Project Location (Address, City/description): 5256 Morada St., Irwindale, CA 91706

Project Description Reference: NOE filed at Los Angeles County by Valley County Water District

CEQA Exemptions: Determine whether any exemptions apply. Reference the full text of the exemptions in articles 18 and 19 of chapter 3 of division 6 of title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. Also reference section 60101 of title 22 for DDW specifics. (See following pages for excerpts of regulatory text.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Class 1 Existing Facilities (art. 19, § 15301)	Operation, repair, maintenance or minor alteration of an existing structure with no or negligible expansion of use.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class 2 Replacement or Reconstruction (art. 19, § 15302)	Replacement or reconstruction of an existing structure where the new structure is located on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity.
<input type="checkbox"/> Class 3 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (art. 19, § 15303)	Construction of a small new structure or installation of small new equipment in a small structure, or conversion of an existing small structure from one use to another with only minor modifications.
<input type="checkbox"/> Class 4 Minor Alteration to Land (art. 19, § 15304)	Minor alteration to the condition of land, water and or vegetation with no negative impact to existing scenic trees
<input type="checkbox"/> Class 6 Information Collection (art. 19, § 15306)	Basic data collection or research that does not cause a major disturbance to the environment.
<input type="checkbox"/> Class 11 Accessory Structures (art. 19, § 15311)	Construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing, like signs or seasonal structures.
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Projects (art. 18, § 15269)	See the regulatory text at section 15269.
<input type="checkbox"/> Installation or maintenance of a pipeline less than 1 mile in public right-of-way (Pub. Resources Code, § 21080.21)	Installation, repair, or removal of a pipeline less than one mile long in a public right-of-way
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Citation to regulatory or statutory exemption and description:

Exceptions to the categorical exemptions (for Article 19 exemptions only): Please mark box indicating whether statement applies. If you mark "yes" then the NOE may not apply, send to Special Project Review Unit.

Yes No

(for classes 3, 4, 6, and 11 only) Location – Is the project located in a particularly sensitive environment? For instance, is the project in or near a wetland, river, stream, or vernal pool habitat? Look at project maps, photos, and Google satellite to view the project area. **Send to Special Project Review Unit for assistance if needed.**

Cumulative Impact – Will there or have there been successive projects of the same type in the same place so that the environmental impact over time is significant?

Unusual Circumstances – Is there a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances? **Unusual circumstances identified by DDW (2/7/2002 memo) are: Critically depleted groundwater basins, groundwater basins subject to salinity intrusion, polluted or contaminated aquifers, and adjudicated ground water basins.** For depleted or adjudicated basin map visit <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#boundaries>

Scenic Highway – Could the project cause damage to the environment within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway? See map of scenic highways here: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2e921695c43643b1aaf7000dfcc19983>

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Hazardous Waste Site – Is the project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code? https://calepa.ca.gov/SiteCleanup/CorteseList/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Historical Resources – Could the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource? National Register Map https://www.nps.gov/maps/full.html?mapId=7ad17cc9-b808-4ff8-a2f9-a99909164466 California Register list by county https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/listedresources/ |

Categorical Exemptions (subject to the exceptions)

Class 1. Existing Facilities CCR 15301 Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The types of “existing facilities” itemized below are not intended to be all-inclusive of the types of projects which might fall within Class 1. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. Examples include but are not limited to:

- (1) Interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances;
- (2) Existing facilities of both investor and publicly owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services;

(See CEQA guidelines for more examples)

Specific Activities Within Categorical Exemption Class 1. CCR, Title 22, Section 60101

- (1) Any interior or exterior alteration of water treatment units, water supply systems, and pump station buildings where the alteration involves the addition, deletion, or modification of mechanical, electrical, or hydraulic controls.
- (2) Maintenance, repair, replacement, or reconstruction to any water treatment process units, including structures, filters, pumps, and chlorinators.

Specific Activities based on February 7, 2002 Memorandum

- (3) Construction, operation or permitting of new water wells for existing water systems which do not exceed 125 gallons per minute provided that the well is **not** located in areas with any of the following:
 - Critically depleted groundwater basins
 - Groundwater basins subject to seawater intrusion
 - Groundwater under the direct influence of streams or lakes
 - Polluted or contaminated aquifers, and
 - Adjudicated groundwater basins

Class 2. Replacement or Reconstruction CCR 15302. Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced, including but not limited to:
 (c) Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

Specific Activities Within Categorical Exemption Class 2. CCR, Title 22, Section 60101

- (1) Repair or replacement of any water service connections, meters, and valves for backflow prevention, air release, pressure regulating, shut-off and blow-off or flushing.
- (2) Replacement or reconstruction of any existing water supply distribution lines, storage tanks and reservoirs of substantially the same size.
- (3) Replacement or reconstruction of any water wells, pump stations and related appurtenances.

Class 3: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. The numbers of structures described in this section are the maximum allowable on any legal parcel.

Specific Activities Within Categorical Exemption Class 3. CCR, Title 22, Section 60101

- (1) Construction of any water supply and distribution lines of less than sixteen inches in diameter, and related appurtenances.
- (2) Construction of any water storage tanks and reservoirs of less than 100,000 gallon capacity.
 - (1) Construction of water supply and distribution lines of less than sixteen inches in diameter and no greater than one mile in length, and related appurtenances
 - (2) Construction of any water storage tanks and reservoirs of no greater than 100,000-gallon capacity.
 - (4) Construction of perimeter fencing around treatment plants and other buildings to deter unauthorized access if disturbed area does not exceed one acre.
 - (5) Installation, operation or permitting of hypochlorination units to inactivate bacterial contamination

Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

- (a) Grading on land with a slope of less than 10 percent, except that grading shall not be exempt in a waterway, in any wetland, in an officially designated (by federal, state, or local government action) scenic area, or in officially mapped areas of severe geologic hazard such as an Alquist- Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone or within an official Seismic Hazard Zone, as delineated by the State Geologist.
- (c) Filling of earth into previously excavated land with material compatible with the natural features of the site;
- (f) Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored;

Specific Activities Within Categorical Exemption Class 4. CCR, Title 22, Section 60101

- (1) Minor alterations to land, water or vegetation on any officially existing designated wildlife management areas or fish production facilities for the purpose of reducing the environmental potential for nuisances or vector production.
- (2) Any minor alterations to highway crossing for water supply and distribution lines.

Class 6: Information Collection Basic data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which DDW has not yet approved, adopted or funded.

Class 11: Accessory Structures consists of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, including but not limited to:

- (a) On-premise signs;



- (b) Small parking lots;
- (c) Placement of seasonal or temporary use items such as lifeguard towers, mobile food units, portable restrooms, or similar items in generally the same locations from time to time in publicly owned parks, stadiums, or other facilities designed for public use.

- Class 32: Infill Development Projects** Class 32 consists of projects characterized as in-fill development meeting the conditions described in this section.
 - (a) The project is consistent with the applicable general plan designation and all applicable general plan policies as well as with applicable zoning designation and regulations.
 - (b) The proposed development occurs within city limits on a project site of no more than five acres substantially surrounded by urban uses.
 - (c) The project site has no value as habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species.
 - (d) Approval of the project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality.
 - (e) The site can be adequately served by all required utilities and public services.

Statutory Exemptions (not subject to the exceptions)

- Section 15269 (a) statutory exemption for declared emergencies**
Projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code. This includes projects that will remove, destroy, or significantly alter an historical resource when that resource represents an imminent threat to the public of bodily harm or of damage to adjacent property or when the project has received a determination by the State Office of Historic Preservation pursuant to Section 5028(b) of Public Resources Code.
- Section 15269 (b) statutory exemption for emergency repairs**
Emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare. Emergency repairs include those that require a reasonable amount of planning to address an anticipated emergency.
- Section 15269 (c) statutory exemption for emergency prevention/mitigation**
Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. This does not include longterm projects undertaken for the purpose of preventing or mitigating a situation that has a low probability of occurrence in the short-term, but this exclusion does not apply (i) if the anticipated period of time to conduct an environmental review of such a long-term project would create a risk to public health, safety or welfare, or (ii) if activities (such as fire or catastrophic risk mitigation or modifications to improve facility integrity) are proposed for existing facilities in response to an emergency at a similar existing facility.
- Section 15282 (k) statutory exemption for right of way pipelines of < 1 mile**
The installation of new pipeline or maintenance, repair, restoration, removal, or demolition of an existing pipeline as set forth in Section 21080.21 of the Public Resources Code, as long as the project does not exceed one mile in length.
- Section 15282 (m) statutory exemption for water fluoridation**
Minor alterations to utilities made for the purposes of complying with Sections 116410 and 116415 of the Health and Safety Code as set forth in Section 21080.26 of the Public Resources Code.